

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED		INFORMATION REPORT OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE		SERIAL NO. 9-61	
DATE OF INFORMATION 30 Jan 1961				DATE OF REPORT 3 Feb 1961	
FROM U.S. Naval Attache, Montevideo		SOURCE Press and official		EVALUATION B-1	
SUBJECT URUGUAY/ARGENTINA: Joint declaration establishing exterior limits of the Rio de la Plata				REQUEST NO. ONI 49-1A, SEC. 4	
BRIEF (FOR REPORTS OF MORE THAN ONE PAGE, ENTER CAREFUL SUMMARY)					

IFI 3165.0500

Ref.: (a) AmEmb Montevideo Desp No. 565 of 2 Feb 1961 (Weeka No. 5)

Encl: (1) Press clipping (El Pais 31 Jan 1961)

1. The Argentine Ambassador Gabriel DEL MAZO and the Uruguayan Minister of Foreign Relations, Homero MARTINEZ MONTERO, signed a joint declaration establishing the exterior limits of the Rio de la Plata (River Plate). This boundary is an imaginary line-- from Punta del Este in the Department of Maldonado, Uruguay, to Punta Rasa on Cabo San Antonio in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina--separating the Rio de la Plata from the Atlantic Ocean.
2. Free translation of the Joint Declaration as appearing in the press (Encl 1) follows:

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INFORMATION REPORT

OPNAV FORM 3820-2 (C) (REV. 6-55)

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED	FROM U.S. Naval Attache, Montevideo	REPORT NO. 9-61	DATE 3 Feb 1961
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Translation from newspaper El Pais of 31 Jan 1961:

The governments of Uruguay and Argentina, with the proposition of establishing in a definite manner the external limits of the Rio de la Plata in consonance with international law and, especially, to fix the base line of demarcation of the territorial sea and its adjacent and contiguous zones,

Considering the statement contained in Art. 13 of the Convention on Territorial Seas and the Contiguous Area, as adopted by the Conference of the United Nations on Law of the Sea and signed by the governments of Uruguay and Argentina in Geneva (Switzerland) the 29th of April 1958, it is stated:

1. The external limits of the River Plate, dividing the waters of this river and those of the Atlantic Ocean, is the imaginary straight line that joins Punta del Este in Uruguay and Punta Rasa in Cape San Antonio, Argentina.

2. This dividing line will also be the basic line for establishing the respective bands of territorial sea and the contiguous and adjacent zones.

3. The legal system of the River Plate will continue to be, as it has been up to the present, that established in the Ramirez-Saenz Pena Protocol, signed in Montevideo the 5th of January 1910, and other international instruments that are still in force, and by laws and regulations of both countries in as much as they are applicable.

Signed and sealed, in duplicate, by both parties, in the city of Montevideo, Republic of Uruguay, this thirtieth day of January nineteen hundred and sixty-one.

Signed: Homero Martinez Montero-Gabriel del Mazo.

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Reporting Officer's Comment:

1. This Joint Declaration puts an end to an unsettled situation which has existed for 130 years over the subject of exterior limits of the Rio de la Plata. It serves to regulate the sovereign rights of both Uruguay and Argentina as relates to control, patrol, and fishing in territorial waters outside the Rio de la Plata area. Agreement on river jurisdiction on the Rio de la Plata inside the newly established boundary limit remains to be reached between the two countries. However, in view of present friendly relations between the two countries this situation may reach amiable conclusion and agreement in the foreseeable future.

Prepared and forwarded:



R. M. PEREZ
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